

**FREDERICK COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING MINUTES
DEPARTMENT OF AGING
January 13, 2014**

COA MEMBERS	DOA STAFF	EXCUSED	UNEXCUSED	GUESTS
Elizabeth Chung	Sue Ramsburg	Ann Holiday	Irene Packer-Halsey	Ray Brown
Ernell Graham	Pat Rosensteel	Dan Yeeles		Sonja Spurlich
David Gray, Comm	Carolyn True			Joseph Berma
Hazel LaCoste				Don Cilla
Louise Lynch				Rae Ann Butler
Bill Moseley				Melanie Cox
Katie Rhinehart				Cindy Powell
Virginia Skelley				

- I. Call to Order** – Louise Lynch called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.
- II. Welcome & Introductions** – Louise welcomed all attendees. Guests and new members were present at today's meeting so introductions were done around the table.
- III. Action on the Agenda** – Louise would like to add a discussion on clarification of the by-laws. She would also like to add the Growth Task Force update under the Reports section of today's meeting.
- IV. Approval of Minutes** – The minutes of the December 9, 2013 meeting were approved with one revision. Section IV in the second

sentence the correct spelling of the name is Thomson. All were in favor.

- V. Commissioner's Report** – Commissioner Gray reminded everyone of the upcoming deadline of February 24th for citizens interested in becoming a candidate for the Councilman positions in the new Charter Government. The BoCC is now meeting every two weeks. The budget is progressing. Budget hearings are not well attended. The CoA would like to be supportive of any budget appeals the DoA will be requesting. It was suggested that a letter from the CoA would be helpful as well as attendance at the budget hearings.

Alderman's Report – This Commission has not been notified of a new representative from the City of Frederick. No one was present at today's meeting. Louise will contact the City offices to inquire who will be their new representative liaison.

- VI. Mission Moment – Ray Brown, Adult Services Supervisor, Department of Social Services** - Ray is the Administrator for the Adult Services Program of Frederick County at DSS (Department of Social Services). The Senior Care Program is a DoA program which is located at DSS. This program focuses on long term case management and in-home aide services. The recent Needs Assessment shows a great need for these services in Frederick County. Currently 130 people are being served by this program. There is also currently a long waiting list for this program. The primary referral source is AERS (Adult Evaluation Review Services). There is a total of seven staff which includes four in-home aides. The current waiting list is 70. The caseworkers have approximately 55 clients each. There are 80 clients receiving in-home aide services. People come into the program based on need. Staff periodically goes out to reassess those on the waiting list. If someone has dramatically declined while on the wait list, APS (Adult Protective Services) can be brought in. This agency has some limited funding and can provide short term assistance. The services provided by the Adult Services program allow clients to remain safely in their home for an additional three to five years. Ray expects that the need will continue to grow in the future as aging in place becomes more prevalent. Funding is currently based on numbers from the 2000 census. The state is in the process of changing funding. The DoA will be requesting another position for the Senior Care Program in the upcoming budget. The funding is provided by the State and also County resources. The State does recognize that Frederick County is one of the fastest growing counties.

- VII. Nominating Committee Report – 2014 Slate of Officers, Louise Lynch** – Louise will step in as the Chairperson until June 2014.

Ginny has volunteered to move into the Vice Chairperson position until that time. There is also a need for members on the Executive Committee and the Nominating Committee. Members are encouraged to think about taking on these roles. If you have questions about the positions, please contact Ginny or Louise. Ann Holiday has volunteered for the Executive Committee. Katie Rhinehart would be interested in helping with the Nominations Committee. Other positions needed are liaisons for United Seniors of Maryland, TSAC, and the Guardianship meetings. Carolyn offered to bring information from TSAC as she attends the bi-monthly meetings. Elizabeth Chung made a motion to accept Louise as Chair and Ginny as Vice Chair. Katie Rhinehart seconded the motion. All were in favor. There are currently five vacant positions on this Commission.

Commission on Aging By-Laws, Louise Lynch – Louise states that although the current BoCC did not vote to allow RaeAnn to continue on this Commission as a “non voting member”, the By-laws which were historically approved by the BoCC allow that she can remain. Article IV, Section 7 states “In the event that the Chairperson is not eligible for another term, that person may be asked by vote of the Commission to remain in a nonvoting advisory capacity for a term of up to one (1) year in order to provide continuity between Chairpersons”. Louise and Ginny will send a letter to the BoCC informing them of the stipulation which is stated in the By-Laws.

Further discussion about the CoA Plan of Action and Strategic Planning Goals for 2014, Louise Lynch – This Commission needs to develop a new Strategic Plan as the previous plan has expired. The Commission should work the DoA when setting goals and priorities. Members are encouraged to review the recent Needs Assessment summary and choose three to five topics/issues which are most important. The discussion of these topics will be the main subject on next month’s agenda. Louise stressed the importance of the Commission’s advocacy because of the growing senior population and current lack of resources. Louise would like to get some numbers from the DoA on current wait lists. There is a need for data in order to prove there are definite needs with in the community. There has been an offering of assistance by citizens in community to help in gathering the needed information. Elizabeth Chung brought up the subject of Americorp volunteers who may be able to assist with these tasks. Carolyn will bring her monthly report to next month’s meeting which shows various programs and the numbers which are served and the numbers which are wait listed.

VIII. Growth Task Force, RaeAnn Butler – This five week task force is going into the seventh week. The final draft report which has been generated was distributed to all the task force members for review.

The five paragraphs of information which this Commission approved at last month's meeting were accepted by the Task Force. The report indicates that there is not any support for new taxes. The report will become public and presented to the BoCC on January 23rd.

State CoA, Louise Lynch – The Commission did meet last week. There will be a State Commission summit in September, 2014. It will be held at the Hagerstown Community College. The Chairperson from every local CoA will be invited to attend. The topic last year was Communities for a Lifetime. Let Louise know if you have good ideas for topics for future summits. Louise also spoke about the Open Meetings Act in regards to these monthly meetings. The CoA meetings are public meetings and open to anyone who is interested. Louise has a copy of this document if anyone is interested. The State DoA is advocating for Senate bill 13 which would establish a Long Term Care Ombudsman Advisory Committee and set tasks for this Committee. Louise also has a copy of this bill if anyone is interested. Another state CoA member would like to advocate for House Bill 10 which requires certification of managers of senior housing complexes.

Partners in Care, Ernell Graham – The December meeting was cancelled. However, Ernell brought some brochures and newsletters.

USM, Ginny Skelley – The USM Rally will be held in Annapolis on January 21st. Louise will plan to attend this event. This is an opportunity for citizens to meet with the State Delegation. The CoA is in need of a new liaison for this organization. The group typically meets in Annapolis. Ginny distributed an information sheet for the Rally.

Director, Carolyn True – The local Health Department will be holding a summit on February 4th from 9:30-3:30. Carolyn can forward the email if anyone is interested. The Local Health Improvement plan is an opportunity for citizens to talk about significant issues. Carolyn thought members of this Commission maybe interested in attending. It will be held at the All Saints Episcopal Church and is an all day event. The afternoon agenda will include breaking up into work groups to discuss specific issues. One issue may be the need for aftercare services which should be in place following a doctor visit and/or hospital discharge in order to avoid a decline in health.

There are coming changes in the Waiver programs which are part of the Affordable Healthcare Act. The current waiver programs will be

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merged and become known as Community Options Waiver. This is a work in progress. Local agencies will have changes in the way they do business. Carolyn distributed information regarding these upcoming changes.

Carolyn and other DoA staff met recently and have developed a four page request for information (RFI). This will be sent out to the community by the Procurement office and will solicit ideas on how to deal with current unmet needs and ideas on ways to provide services in a different way. Carolyn will keep the CoA informed. Louise suggested that a CoA member be involved in this process.

- IX. Announcements** –Hermine Bernstein sent out an email regarding a Poverty Forum at FCC on January 27th. There will be a speaker and forum. It will start at 7pm and will be held in Building H.

There will be a court hearing on January 16th in regard to the CCRC/MAL sale. There will be a rally at 9:00 at the Circuit Court. The County has asked for this case to be dismissed. There will be a decision to dismiss or to set a date for a hearing. There will be no definitive decision made on that day on the legitimacy of the actual sale.

The Executive Committee will meet on January 28th at 2:00. If anyone is interested in joining this committee, feel free to attend this meeting.

- X. Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 2:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Ramsburg
Recording Secretary

Upcoming Dates:

February 10, 2014, Commission on Aging, 1:00 at Frederick Senior Center,
1440 Taney Ave, Frederick, MD,

March 4, 2014, CoA Executive Committee meeting, 1:00 at Frederick County
Dept of Aging